

JOB SHEET 2-3-41 VR/SHEAR DISPLAY FUNCTION

INTRODUCTION

The VR/Shear Display function provides the operator with a quick method of estimating rotational velocity and shear for any selected velocity couplet. This function only works on the Graphic Tablet with a **16 data-level** Base Velocity (V) product or one of the Storm Relative Velocity products (SRM, SRR) or an **active** high resolution Time Lapse of these products. Besides the rotational velocity and shear, the range and diameter of the selected velocity couplet are also displayed. All parameters are written to the feedback area on the bottom right-hand corner of the screen.

OBJECTIVE

Use the Graphic Tablet to calculate and display the rotational velocity and shear of a velocity couplet.

REFERENCES

NWS EHB 6-531-1, USERS GUIDE: PUP\RPGOP, Section 6.15.

PROCEDURE

Graphic Tablet

1. Select a 16 data-level Base Velocity, Storm Relative Velocity map or Storm Relative Velocity region product on either the right or left screen. The selected product can be either a full or quarter screen display.
 - It is helpful to magnify the product before selecting the two points. This ensures the accurate selection of the strongest velocity values. Remember that the SRR product can not be magnified.
2. Define the velocity couplet by selecting two points across an area of interest.
 - Note that once the points are selected they are retained until another cursor position is selected or the PRESET CENTER function is selected.

GRAPHIC TABLET

[illegible]

- To prevent erroneously high shear values the diameter must be greater than one beamwidth. Selecting two points that are less than one beamwidth apart will cause the software to change the diameter to one beamwidth. This usually occurs when working with a storm at a long distance from the RDA.
3. Select the **VR/Shear Display** in the Product Overlays (orange) section of the Graphics Tablet.
 - A line is drawn on the screen between the two points. This line remains displayed until the screen is cleared, the OVERLAYS ERASE function is selected, or the product is re-centered. The line is not saved with the product.
 4. Note the calculated values in the feedback line located in the lower right-hand corner of the display.
 - Feedback is immediate with a message displaying an estimate of the rotational velocity (VR), range from the radar (RAN), Shear (S), and Diameter (DI).
 - The following are the units and abbreviations for each item displayed in the feedback message:

Rotational velocity	VR	knots
Range from radar	RAN	nautical miles
Shear	S	per second
Diameter	DI	nautical miles
 - Rotational velocities are calculated using the mid-range velocity values of the color level selected. Therefore, the calculation for base velocity depends on the data level increments selected at the Unit Control Position (UCP).
 - If the maximum displayable value (inbound or outbound) is selected, mid-range is determined by adding (or subtracting) 5 knots to that value. When the maximum value is selected the feedback message displays a greater than sign (>) prefixed to the rotational velocity and shear values.
 - The range from the radar displayed is based on the center point between the two selected points.
 - The diameter displayed is the distance between the two selected points and cannot be greater than 27 nm.

KEYBOARD															SYMBOLS										USER FUNCTIONS																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

When using the base velocity products, remember that the resolution (0.13, 0.27 or 0.54 nm) could yield **different** VR/SHEAR values for the same two points. This occurs because the velocity task uses the first 0.13 nm range gate and this is calculated differently for each resolution.

The VR/SHEAR function **can** be used when running a Base Velocity, SRM, or SRR time lapse. The points selected for the VR/SHEAR calculations must be defined on each product before Time Lapse mode is initiated, and is only available for high-resolution Time Lapses (i.e., slower than or equal to 1.0 frame/sec).

The VR/SHEAR function “remembers” the last two points selected. The operator can utilize the previous point selection for subsequent VR/SHEAR selections. These geographical positions can be used for both graphic screens and in both full and quarter screen modes.

The following are feedback messages and their meanings for errors that may be generated when this function is selected.

VR/SHEAR MUST USE BASE VEL, SRM, SRR - The product on the screen at the time the VR/Shear Display function was selected is not a 16 data-level base velocity, storm relative velocity map or storm relative velocity region.

VR/SHEAR MUST USE LINE LENGTH <27 NM - The two points selected to define the velocity couplet are too far apart. The points must be within 27 nautical miles of each other.

VR/SHEAR CANNOT USE RF DATA - One or both of the points selected to define the velocity couplet are in a range folded area. Re-select the points ensuring they lie in a valid velocity data region.

VR/SHEAR CANNOT USE ND DATA - One or both of the points selected to define the velocity couplet are in a no data area. Re-select the points ensuring they lie in a valid velocity data region.

VR/SHEAR DIAMETER TOO SMALL - The two points selected have the same geographic coordinates. Select the points again, making sure they are spaced apart from one another.

INVALID FOR LOW RES TIME LAPSE - The product on the screen is a low resolution time lapse frame. The Vr/Shear function cannot use a low resolution time lapse frame as this resolution yields inaccurate results.

INVALID FOR TIME LAPSE PRODUCT - The product on the screen is an inactive time lapse frame. The Vr/Shear function cannot be used on a time lapse frame that has been left on the screen after the time lapse mode has ended. Note that it can be used on an active high resolution time lapse frame. Always halt the time lapse before attempting to select a velocity couplet.

END